Kandahar City to Become Key Trade Zone: Minister

KANDAHAR CITY - Kandahar City, the capital of southern Kandahar province, is being converted into an important economic zone, a minister said Saturday. Eng. Rokhan Wolesmal, the urban development minister, made the announcement at a meeting with Kandahar municipality employees here. Wolesmal, also a former Kandahar City mayor, said some mega economic projects were being implemented in Kandahar City, which would improve people’s living standard and would have a positive impact on the city’s economic situation.

The mega projects include four terminals which would serve as transport and trade centers, said the minister. He said land for the terminals, funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), had been identified and work on the projects would be kicked off soon.

The minister said 500 acres of land had been identified for the construction of each terminal and the land transfer process was nearing completion. He also said 1000 jobless youth would be provided with work opportunity in Kandahar City. Referring to the vacant post of Kandahar City Mayor, Wolesmal said 500 individuals had applied for the post, out of which one would be picked through transparent and fair process. He asked employees of the municipality to fully cooperate with the acting mayor until the new mayor was appointed. (Pajhwok)

Hanif Atmar Resigns over ‘Serious Differences’

Afghanistan’s National Security Advisor resigned from his post on Saturday, sources have confirmed. Atmar’s letter of resignation stated that he is stepping down due to “serious differences over policies and approaches at the top level of government.”

He said he differed in opinion “when it comes to national unity, national consensus, peace and security political management, electoral affairs, good governance and regional affairs.”

Atmar also stated that “because of my differences of these things in recent months I am stepping down because we haven’t reached a consensus.” Atmar has been a close aide to President Ashraf Ghani since 2014. He was also interior minister during former president Hamid Karzai’s tenure until 2010. (More on P5-5)

Daesh Ideology Takes Root in Afghanistan: U.S. Ambassador to UN

WASHINGTON - U.S. Ambassador to United Nations Nikki Haley has told the UN Security Council that the Islamic State (IS)-affiliated group is “an enemy that adapts, and one that will seek out the world’s unguarded spaces.”

Haley emphasized that the Daesh group demonstrates that it is “an enemy that adapts, and one that will seek out the world’s unguarded spaces.”

In the meantime, Undersecretary-General for Counter-Terrorism Vladimir Voronkov said IS con- tinues to be a focus of IS’s attention and that IS continues to be a focus of IS’s attention.

The interested Consultancy firms who submit their EOIs soft documents to E-Mail address procurement@mccit.gov.af must to submit the hard documents within 7 days after valid date to the address mentioned above otherwise they will be disqualified.

KABUL - Security forces on Saturday removed protest tents erected near the entrance to Independent Election Commission (IEC) offices in Kabul and Kandahar province.

Eight days ago, supporters of six disqualified Wolesi Jirga candidates shut the IEC head office in Kabul. They asked the panel to reverse its decision.

The protesters complained the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission had not informed them about their removal.

The protesters also stated that they have not received their money, which was promised to them.

However, the IEC said on August 19 that the decision regarding the removal of 35 Wolesi Jirga candidates from the list was final and irreversible.

On Saturday, the security forces removed the protest camps in front of IEC, offices in Kabul and Kandahar. (More on P4-4)